(b) if so, what action has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The suggestions were not agreed to.

Allotment of Book Counter Tables and Trolleys at Railway Stations

3221. SHRI VISHWARAO RAMRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to answer to Unstarred Question 1900 given in the Rajya Sabha on 10th August 1988 and state whether it is a fact that book counter tables and trolleys on the Railway Station are being given only to the existing Contractor since long?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): Yes, Sir. However, each case is decided on merit.

Encouragement to Private Sector in Port Sector

3222. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is Government's policy to encourage private sector in the port sector; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) In limited areas of Port Development, Government are prepared to encourage the induction of private capital. Development of Container Terminals in Ports, where already one such Terminal exists, has been identified as one such area.

IPKF Operations in Sri Lanka

3223. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether besides the IPKF operations in the North and East Tamil speaking areas of Sri Lanka any other Indian Troops are to be engaged in keeping law and order in Colombo and Southern districts; and

(b) if so, under which agreement or norms of international understanding are these troops to be engaged in Sri Lanka?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) No such deployment is being considered.

(b) Does not arise.

Violation of Orders of Directorate of Education, Delhi Administration

3224. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the East District authorities had not followed the orders of the Director of Education, Delhi Administration while appointing Post-Graduate Teachers in 1987-88, and had made appointments on ad-hoc basis and subject to Supreme Court's decision, whereas in some other districts Post-Graduate Teachers were appointed on regular basis;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the East District authorities have put some conditions of their own in the offer/order of appointment whereas no such conditions were there in the order of the Director of Education, Delhi Administration; and

(c) if so, what action is proposed to be taken to rectify injustice done to Post-Graduate Teachers of East District and against the concerned officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) to (c) According to the Delhi Administration, the words 'emergent and ad-hoc basis' were used in the appointment letters of Post-Graduate Teachers in 1987-88 under East District. The Corrigenda have already been issued for deletion of the words 'emergent and ad-hoc basis' in the said appointment letters of PGTs.

Relaxation of Rules for acquiring Ships

3225. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to relax rules for acquiring ships;

(b) if so what are the salient features threeof; and

(c) to what extent the private shipping companies would be benefited and the growth of shipping industry would be boosted as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) Government have issued orders/revised guidelines simplifying procedures and relaxing rules on the acquisition of ships. These include'—

(i) A revised composite application form for ship acquisition by private companies;

(ii) Revised guidelines for Pari-Passu obligations;

(iii) Revised age norms relating to economic life of vessels to be acquired and minimum balance period at the time of acquisition;

(iv) Allowing acquisition of ships for cross trade subject to specific conditions;

(v) Permitting acquisition of ships upto 25 per cent in excess of assessed requirements;

(vi) Allowing placement of orders on Indian shipyards without reference to assessed requirements;

(c) It is hoped that these revised guidelines/relaxation of rules would help private shipping companies to acquire additional ships speedily and at economic rates. This would result in augmenting the national tonnage and also lead to the creation of a stronger and financially viable shipping industry.

Development of Bhubaneshwar Airport

3226. SHRI JAGADISH JANI:
SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal for strengthening Bhubaneshwar airport;

(b) if so the specific steps taken in this regard so far and the amount sanctioned for the purpose; and

(c) what other steps are proposed to be taken for strengthening and modernising the airport?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The secondary runway has been recarpetted. The work on strengthening of the main runway to PCN-55 and other associated pavements for limited Airbus operations is in progress. A sum of Rs. 5.74 crores has been sanctioned for this scheme. It is proposed to extend the existing